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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Sandrine Decoster

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22852

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EXAMINER

YU, GINA C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1611

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/018,769	Applicant(s) DECOSTER ET AL.	
	Examiner GINA C. YU	Art Unit 1611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on November 8, 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18, 20-28 and 30-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18, 20-28, 30-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on November 2, 2008 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 18, 20-28, and 30-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsumatsu et al. (WO 99/13830) (“Mitsumatsu”) in view of Oshima (JP401009916A) and Sebag et al. (WO 98/03155) (“Sebag”).

Mitsumatsu teaches shampoo formulations comprising trizole, an optical brightener, and either stearyl alcohol or behenyl alcohol. See Examples 3-5. Detergent surfactants such as ammonium lauryl sulfate and cocamidopropylbetaine are used within the claimed amount. See instant claims 37-39. Conditioning agents such as silicone emulsion are used. See instant claims 40-44. See p. 45, lines 9 – 14 for the method of use. See instant claims 49-51.

While Mitsumatsu suggests using cetyl alcohol, stearyl, and behenyl alcohol either individually or as a mixture in p. 24, lines 16 – 20, the reference does not provide

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a specific example which concurrently uses stearyl alcohol and behenyl alcohol in the ratio as required by instant claim 18.

Oshima teaches a shampoo containing anionic and/or ampholytic surfactant and stearyl alcohol and behenyl alcohol as essential components, wherein the amounts of stearyl (C18) alcohol and behenyl (C22) alcohol are 0.5-5 [sic] wt % and 0.75-7.5 wt %, respectively, and the weight ratio of the alcohols is 1:1.15-4.5. See English abstract; instant claim 18. The shampoo is said to have “beautiful appearance and excellent storage stability, is capable of imparting pearl luster to hair and has excellent hair-conditioning effect”.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the present invention to modify teaching of Mitsumatsu by using stearyl and behenyl alcohols in the weight ratio as motivated by Oshima, because 1) Mitsumatsu suggests using stearyl and behenyl alcohols within the weight amount which overlaps with Oshima; and 2) Oshima teaches the combination of the two fatty alcohols in a specific ratio in a shampoo formulation which is stable and imparts excellent hair conditioning effect. The skilled artisan would have had a reasonable expectation of successfully producing a stable shampoo formulation.

Mitsumatsu and Oshima fails to teach the opacifier/pearlescent recited in claims 18 and 20--25.

Sebag teaches hair washing and conditioning compositions comprising a dialkyl ether of formula (II) in instant claim 22, and preferably distearyl ether. See English equivalent of Sebag, US 6162423, col. 2, lines 26 – 53; col. 1, lines 4- 66. The

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reference teaches that the use of at least one fatty dialkyl ether used in the instant invention renders a washing foaming compositions having insoluble silicones and surfactants, pearlescent effect, good homogeneity, and improved stability while maintaining foaming power. See Example 1, which comprises stearyl alcohol, suggesting the compatibility of the Sebag composition with higher fatty alcohols.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the shampoo composition of the combined references, which comprises silicone emulsion, by adding distearyl ether in the composition as motivated by Sebag, because the latter teaches that the compound renders insoluble silicone and detergent-containing foam compositions pearlescent effect, good homogeneity, and improved stability while maintaining foaming effect. The skilled artisan would have had a reasonable expectation of successfully producing silicone-containing shampoo compositions with pearlescent effect, good homogeneity with improved stability and foams.

Oath/Declaration

Declaration filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.132, filed on November 2, 2008, has been fully considered but does not place the application in allowable condition.

Declaration compares compositions having C18:C22 fatty acid ratios of 0.19 and 0.085, and shows that the viscosity of the invention is less temperature dependent than the viscosity of the comparative composition. However, the claimed ratio of the C18:C22 fatty acids is already taught by Oshima, which provides an expectation of the

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result indicated in the declaration because the reference teaches that the ratio of 1:1.15-4.5 provides "excellent" storage stability.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on November 2, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts that combining Mitsumatsu and Oshima would not have been obvious because the references do not teach an "overlapping" weight of the C18 and C22 fatty acids. The argument is unpersuasive because Oshima already provides an example of a shampoo formulation disclosing the effective amount of and weight ratio of the fatty acids with specific benefits which would have motivated a skilled artisan to modify the teachings of Mitsumatsu and make the present invention. Modifying the weight amount according to combined teachings of the references would have been well within the skill of the art.

With respect to applicant's arguments relying on the declaration filed on November 2, 2008, the arguments are viewed unpersuasive for reasons discussed above. See Oath/Declaration.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

This is a continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier prosecution and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier prosecution. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a

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first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GINA C. YU whose telephone number is (571)272-8605. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, from 9:00AM until 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sharmila Landau can be reached on 571-272-0614. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gina C. Yu/
Primary Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1611